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FROM: PARIS

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Rec'd: FEBRUARY 20, 1959  
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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: POLTO 2374, FEBRUARY 20, 8 PM

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SENT DEPARTMENT POLTO 2374; REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON POLTO 533, BONN POLTO 403, MOSCOW POLTO 132, BERLIN POLTO 41.

REFERENCES: TOPOL 2784 AND POLTO 2354

IN ANOTHER MEETING WITH FRENCH, BRITISH AND GERMANS TODAY, WE MADE ANOTHER PITCH FOR CIRCULATING ON LIMITED BASIS WORKING GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE AND ANALYSIS. WHILE THERE APPEARED TO BE PROBABLE AGREEMENT ON CIRCULATING THE FIRST PART OF PAPER- THAT IS, THE ANALYSIS, - THERE WERE NO SUPPORTERS FOR CIRCULATING QUESTIONNAIRE. UK WAS CAGEY, TRYING NOT TO UNDERCUT OUR ARGUMENTS. GERMAN SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS FROM BONN WERE TO PROPOSE THAT ONE MEMBER OF WG GIVE ORAL REPORT TO NAC OF OUTLINE OF WG THINKING TO DATE. WE INDICATED WE THOUGHT THIS WAS INADEQUATE. FRENCH (DE LEUSSE) SAID QUAI STILL OPPOSED TO CIRCULATING QUESTIONNAIRE, BUT WERE WORKING UP AD REFERENDUM TO THEM# A PAPER WHICH WOULD SUMMARIZE, BUT NOT IN QUESTIONNAIRE FORM, VARIOUS POSSIBLE PROPOSALS COVERED BY QUESTIONNAIRE. THIS FOR POSSIBLE CIRCULATION, IF AGREED, ON LIMITED BASIS TO MEMBERS NOAT#. FRENCH WILL HAVE THIS TOMORROW, AND WE WILL FORWARD TO WASHINGTON. GERMANS THOUGHT THIS PROCEDURE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO BONN. BRITISH THOUGHT LONDON WOULD BE OPEN-MINDED.

US ARGUED THAT ORIGINAL AGREED WG PAPER SHOULD BE PROVIDED, BUT IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE, SOMETHING MUST BE WORKED OUT BY WEDNESDAY TO GIVE COUNCIL SENSE OF PARTICIPATION. UK SAID CANADIANS HAD ALREADY ASKED THEM WHETHER FOUR POWER QUESTIONNAIRE WOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO NAC ON WEDNESDAY.

TENTATIVELY AGREED MEET AGAIN MONDAY NOON. US RESERVED

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-2- POLTO 2374, FEBRUARY 20, 8 P.M., FROM PARIS

POSITION BUT AGREED TO REFER FRENCH DRAFT TO WASHINGTON.

WHILE WE ARE SUSPENDING JUDGMENT UNTIL WE SEE FRENCH DRAFT, IT MAY BE THIS, WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS, WILL BE ONLY FEASIBLE WAY OF FILLING PRESENT GAP. GENEAL FORM MIGHT FOLLOW TO SOME EXTENT PRECEDENT OF MARCH 1957 FOUR POWER WG REPORT ON GERMANY AND EUROPEAN SECURITY. (ANNEX 7 OF REPORT).

BURGESS

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